

From: NCEH/ATSDR News Clips (CDC)
Sent: Mon 8/17/2015 9:04:21 PM
Subject: NCEH/ATSDR News Clips for Monday, August 17, 2015
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Summary



1. [New Mexico Lifts Water Ban After Toxic Spill, Precautions Remain ATSDR Named Epoch Times -- 8/16/2015 New York, NY](#)

Residents were warned by the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) that the sediment still staining the river banks may be toxic so cautioned the public to refrain from drinking untreated water from the rivers.

2. [Animas River reopens for recreational use after mine spill ATSDR Named CBS News Network -- 8/14/2015 New York, NY](#)

The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry recommends several health practices for those who come in contact with the Animas River water including: not drinking from it unless it is treated, washing hands thoroughly with soap and water, washing clothes after contact and avoiding areas where there is visible discoloration with the sediment and surface water.

**3. Intel air-quality report shows no health issues ATSDR Named
Rio Rancho Observer -- 8/16/2015 NM**

The federal Agency for Toxic Substances & Disease Registry has concluded Intel does not produce emissions that place the health of the community at risk.

**4. Animas River back open for recreation ATSDR Named
Pine River Times -- 8/17/2015 CO**

State health department says not to drink untreated water from river

**5. Tianjin blasts: fears of cyanide pollution as Chinese officials lambasted CDC Reference
Guardian -- 8/17/2015 London, UK**

High levels of sodium cyanide have been detected by wastewater monitors amid growing anger at the blasts which killed at least 114 people

**6. Russia suspends sale of three types of US wine
MENAFN News -- 8/17/2015 Amman, Jordan**

...in which the concentration of dangerous chemicals exceeding the standards was found.

**7. Fukushima operator's mounting legal woes to fuel nuclear opposition
Reuters -- 8/17/2015 New York, NY**

They include a judge's forced disclosure of a 2008 internal document prepared for managers at Tokyo Electric Power Co warning of a need for precautions against an unprecedented nuclear catastrophe.

**8. Colorado Spill Heightens Debate Over Future of Old Mines
New York Times -- 8/16/2015 New York, NY**

...Gold King went on to become one of the most productive mines in Colorado's San Juan County, with three shifts of men working 24 hours a day in its dark corridors. ...leaving behind a toxic legacy that this region has struggled to clean up for decades.

**9. Bird flu to human transmission a 'concern', not yet high risk: CDC
CNBC News -- 8/16/2015 New York, NY**

The worst animal virus outbreak in U.S. history has killed 48 million birds, yet no humans have been infected. Still, the head of the Centers for Disease Control's (CDC) Influenza Division says the department is "concerned" that the bird flu virus may mutate.

**10. Sierra Leone Has First Week of No New Ebola Cases
Time Magazine -- 8/17/2015 New York**

On Monday, the World Health Organization (WHO) announced that the Ebola response has moved into “phase 3,” which means responders are working to ensure that the last known cases of Ebola in the country have not spread.

11. Return on investment slipping in biomedical research, study says
Medical Xpress -- 8/17/2015 PhysOrg.com

...while the number of scientists has increased more than nine-fold since 1965 and the National Institutes of Health's budget has increased four-fold, the number of new drugs approved by the Food and Drug Administration has only increased a little more than two-fold.

12. New bio-containment system unveiled in Georgia CDC named
Terra Daily -- 8/14/2015 Gerringong, NSW, Australia

The State Department said it was developed leveraging lessons learned from conducting high-risk medevac missions, such as the evacuation of Ebola victim from West Africa. It was developed by the State Department and MRIGlobal with contributions from the Paul G. Allen Family Foundation.

13. China warehouse explosion: Tianjin workers race to clear site of deadly chemicals before it rains
Independent, The -- 8/16/2015 London, UK

Officials confirmed the warehouse where the blast occurred was used to house more than 100 tons of sodium cyanide, a potentially deadly substance.

14. World food supply at growing risk from severe weather
ScienceInsider -- 8/13/2015 AAAS, Washington, DC

In 2007, drought struck the bread baskets of Europe, Russia, Canada, and Australia. Global grain stocks were already scant, so wheat prices began to rise rapidly. When countries put up trade barriers to keep their own harvests from being exported, prices doubled, according to an index of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. Just 3 years later, another spike in food prices contributed to the Arab Spring uprisings.

15. Apparent ‘pay to cite’ offer sparks Internet outrage
ScienceInsider -- 8/14/2015 AAAS, Washington, DC

Scientists are erupting in outrage on this otherwise sleepy August day. The cause? Cyagen, a purveyor of transgenic research mice, is seemingly offering its scientist customers cash if they cite one of their products in a published paper. But a company spokesman says it’s all a misunderstanding.

16. Corn Wars
New Republic, The -- 8/16/2015 Washington, DC

The farm-by-farm fight between China and the United States to dominate the global food supply. ...In Li's luggage, agents found two large Pop Weaver microwave popcorn boxes. Buried under the bags of unpopped snack kernels were roughly 300 tiny manila envelopes, all cryptically numbered—2155, 2403, 20362. Inside each envelope was a single corn seed. In Ye's luggage, agents found more corn seeds hidden amid his clothes, each one individually wrapped in napkins from a Subway restaurant. Customs officers were dispatched to the gate area for the Beijing flight, where they found the two men and conducted body searches. Still more corn seeds, also folded into napkins, were discovered in Ye's pockets.

**17. Modern life may be causing a 'hidden epidemic'
FOX News Network -- 8/17/2015 New York, NY**

Could pollution be to blame for why dementia is killing more people and being diagnosed earlier than ever? That's the theory being floated by researchers involved in a study of patients in 21 countries from 1989 to 2010.

**18. Chattahoochee River Polluter Fined \$10 Million Atlanta
Press Release -- 8/17/2015**

...unlawful discharge of toxic pollutants into the Chattahoochee River near Fulton Industrial Park.

**19. The marijuana legalization movement begins in the states
Center For Public Integrity -- 8/17/2015 Washington DC**

"I don't think that legalization is inevitable," said Alan Shinn, the executive director of the Coalition for a Drug-Free Hawaii. "The pro-marijuana people will say that it's just a matter of time before marijuana is legalized. I think there's other alternatives to legalization. We should really be taking a public health approach to this, especially with our youth."

**20. China Evacuates Tianjin Blast Area Amid Fears of Toxic Chemicals in Air
Wall Street Journal -- 8/15/2015 New York, NY**

...a leading commercial newspaper—said authorities ordered an evacuation of an area within a 1.9-mile radius of the blast site over fears of toxic gases emitted from hazardous chemicals. However, state broadcaster China Central Television reported that officials ordered a shifting of some personnel and the rescue command center, rather than a general evacuation.

**21. Study shows how climate change threatens health
EurekAlert! -- 8/14/2015 Washington, DC**

Gulf Coast, Northeast and West Coast of US at high risk

**22. Volcanic activity slows at Sakurajima but alert remains in force
Japan Times, The -- 8/17/2015 Tokyo**

Kyushu Electric Power Co.'s Sendai nuclear power plant is located 50 km from the volcano. Last Tuesday, it became the first nuclear plant to restart under tighter safety rules adopted in the wake of the 2011 Fukushima nuclear crisis.

**23. Animals shrunk after Fukushima crisis began
ENENEWS.COM -- 8/14/2015 Internet**

Japan Scientists: We conclude that the small size was caused by environmental stress imposed by unusual event

**24. Constantly checking your mobile phone can lead to 'cognitive failures'
Independent, The -- 8/17/2015 London, UK**

“This is a very underexamined area and a very important one. We are using technology on a daily basis but we don't understand its effect on us,”... ..a theory, however: that it is a mix of the two. In other words, those people already suffering from short attention spans are drawn to the distractions of modern technology, which makes it even harder for them to pay attention to their surroundings.

**25. Australia Targets Wildlife-Killing Cats With Toxic Microchips
TakePart -- 8/14/2015 Beverly Hills, California**

Implanting feral felines with chips that release poison and kill the predators when they attack is just one strategy for keeping native animals from going extinct.

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